

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: K. SOEJIMA et al
Serial No. 10/041,578
Filed: January 10, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2187
Examiner: N. Moazzami
For: VOLUME MANAGEMENT METHOD AND
APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)
UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

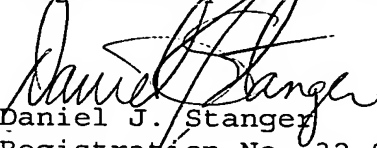
April 21, 2004

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure, the Applicants inform the Examiner of the documents cited during prosecution of the parent application, USSN 10/041,578.

The Applicants request the Examiner to initial and return a copy of the attached PTO-1449 form as an indication that the references have been considered.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: April 21, 2004

FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
NIT-316-02

SERIAL NO.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

K. SOEJIMA et al

FILING DATE

04/21/04

GROUP

2187

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

* EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If Appropriate)
AA	6,405,284	06/2002	Bridge			
AB	6,256,705	07/2001	Li et al			
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AM						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AN						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AO						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AP						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AR	"Data Storage Report 2002", Nikkei Computopia, 2000, pp. 16-20.
AS	Building Storage Networks, Osborne/McGraw Hill, pp. 176-177, 210-225.
AT	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.